

Hearing Testimony for SB- 499, 3/5/08

In theory I support SB-499, but my concerns about a few issues as written in the bill, and possible solutions, follows.

**Section1 (a)(2) ..“On or after October 1, 2008, any placard issued or renewed shall contain the placard number, the signature of the person to whom such placard is issued, and the last five digits of such person’s operator’s license number”.**

I believe the signature on the placard of the person to whom the permit is issued, is a potential security issue and should **not** be included on the placard. Also, obtaining a permit should not depend on whether or not a person has a DMV operator’s license. This is discriminatory language and potentially unsafe. Qualifying people with disabilities who have a State ID should also be included.

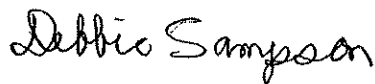
**Section 1(b) Such placard renewal applications.....shall include certification of a disability from a licensed physician or APRN.**

I agree that the placards should have a renewal process. However, in the late 1980s some physicians were charging \$25-\$35.00 to fill out such an application. I have no idea what they charge now. There is a difference between just renewing a handicapped parking permit and having to get the signature of a licensed physician or an APRN at each renewal. Once a person is declared as having a lifetime disability, she/he should not have to obtain such signature on renewal forms if/when this new system goes into effect. Nevertheless, if it IS required, the State of CT should pay the bill if a fee is charged to complete the application form.

Section 3. I believe there should be a part in this section, which allows law enforcement officers to have access to the parking permit information on their computers, so it could be accessed anytime and not only the hours State offices are open. I believe this is already done with license plate /car registration information.

If you have any questions about my concerns or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Deborah Sampson  
587 Savin Avenue, West Haven CT 0651-4933  
[dsampson347@yahoo.com](mailto:dsampson347@yahoo.com)  
203/934-0563